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V.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit 2663  
Examiner Ferris, Derrick W.

RECEIVED  
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Technology Center 2600

In Re: Erol Basturk et al.  
Case: 239603PL-011  
Serial No.: 09/393,768  
Filed: 9/10/1999  
Subject: Method for Load-balancing with FIFO Guarantees in  
Multipath Networks

To the Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Response C**

Dear Sir,

**In the claims:**

The claims standing for examination are reproduced below with indication of amendment status. Claims 1, 12, 18, 21, 23, 25 and 28 are amended in the present response. Claims 5-8, 19, 20, 22 and 24 are cancelled.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for routing packets in a multipath network of nodes, each packet having a routing in the network determined by a directed-graph index, comprising;

accessing a tag and directed-graph index of a packet at a first node, the tag including a plurality of bits included in the packet;

Sub  
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